

Puelche language

Puelche is an extinct language formerly spoken by the Puelche people in the Pampas region of Argentina. The language is also known as *Gününa Küne*, Gennaken (Guenaken), Northern Tehuelche, *Gününa Yajich*, Ranquelche, and Pampa.

Contents
Classification
Phonology
Vowels
Consonants
Vocabulary
Bibliography
See also
References
External links

Puelche	
Gennaken	
<i>Gününa Küne</i>	
Native to	Argentina
Region	Río Negro
Extinct	1934 ^[1] <div>with the death of Trruúlmani</div>
Language family	<div>Chonan ? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Puelche–Het ?<ul style="list-style-type: none">Puelche</div>
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	pue
Glottolog	pue11244 (http://glottolog.org/resource/language/id/pue11244) ^[2]

Classification

Puelche has long been considered a language isolate. Based on very limited evidence, Viegas Barros (1992) suggests that Puelche might be closely related to the language of the Querandí, one of the Het peoples, and Viegas Barros (2005) that it is related to the Chon languages.^[3] Further afield, inclusion in a putative Macro-Jibaro family has been posited.

Phonology

Vowels

Puelche has 7 vowels:^[4]

	Front	Back	
	Unrounded	Unrounded	Rounded
<u>Close</u>	i	ɯ	u
<u>Close-mid</u>	e	ɤ	o
<u>Open-mid</u>		ʌ	
<u>Open</u>	a		

A short sounding /e/ is realized as [ɛ].

Consonants

Puelche has 25 consonants:^{[4][5]}

		<u>Bilabial</u>	<u>Alveolar</u>	<u>Retroflex</u>	<u>Palato-alveolar</u>	<u>Palatal</u>	<u>Velar</u>	<u>Uvular</u>	<u>Glottal</u>
<u>Nasal</u>		m	n						
<u>Plosive</u>	<u>voiceless</u>	p	t				k	q	ʔ
	<u>ejective</u>	pʼ	tʼ				kʼ	(qʼ)	
	<u>voiced</u>	b	d				g		
<u>Affricate</u>	<u>voiceless</u>		ʈs	ʈʂ	ʈʃ				
	<u>ejective</u>		ʈsʼ	ʈʂʼ	ʈʃʼ				
<u>Fricative</u>	<u>central</u>		s	ʂ	ʃ		x		h
	<u>lateral</u>		ɬ						
<u>Lateral</u>			l			ʎ			
<u>Rhotic</u>	<u>trill</u>		r						
	<u>tap</u>		ɾ						
<u>Approximant</u>						j	w		

It is not clear if there is a uvular ejective stop [qʼ].

Vocabulary

Loukotka (1968) lists the following basic vocabulary items for Gennaken.^[6]

<u>gloss</u>	<u>Gennaken</u>
one	chéye
two	päch
ear	chütsk
tooth	xaye
hand	yapal
foot	yapgít
sun	apiúkük
moon	apioxok
dog	dáshü

Bibliography

Casamiquela, Rodolfo M. (1983). *Nociones de gramática del gүнүна күне*. Paris: French National Centre for Scientific Research.

Adelaar, Willem (2004). *The Languages of the Andes*. Cambridge University Press. ISBN 978-0-521-36275-7.

See also

- Boreal Pehuelche

References

1. Puelche (<https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/puel/>) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Puelche" (<http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/puel1244>). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
3. Campbell, Lyle (2012). "Classification of the indigenous languages of South America". In Grondona, Verónica; Campbell, Lyle (eds.). *The Indigenous Languages of South America*. The World of Linguistics. **2**. Berlin: De Gruyter Mouton. pp. 59–166. ISBN 9783110255133.
4. Casamiquela, Rodolfo M. (1983). *Nociones de gramática del gününa küne*. Paris: French National Centre for Scientific Research. pp. 34–40.
5. Barros, J. Viegas. Un nuevo análisis fonológico del gününa yajüch. CONICET-Universidad de Buenos Aires
6. Loukotka, Čestmír (1968). *Classification of South American Indian languages* (<https://archive.org/details/classificationof0007louk>). Los Angeles: UCLA Latin American Center.

External links

- Gününa Küne language dictionary online from IDS (<https://web.archive.org/web/20100819194552/http://lingweb.eva.mpg.de/ids/>) (select simple or advanced browsing)
 - WALS: Puelche (http://wals.info/languoid/lect/wals_code_gku)
 - Gününa Küne (<https://ids.clld.org/contributions/312>) (Intercontinental Dictionary Series)
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